

## REMARKS

Claim 6 specifies a particular arrangement of three planar conductors. The central one has at one end an “unbalanced gate” that is a port at which an unbalanced signal is connected and its other end is connected to ground.

The other two conductors on either side each have a balanced gate at one of their ends and are capacitatively coupled together at their other ends.

The Examiner cites Mourant as anticipating claims 1, 7 and 8 (sic), with particular reference to the Fig. 3 embodiment of that reference.

Fig. 3 shows an L-shaped conductor 110, the primary inductor, which receives an unbalanced input at terminal 116 and is connected to ground by via 120 at its other end. It may thus be considered similar to the Applicant’s “first of the lines”. Conductors 112 and 114 are secondary inductors. Conductor 112 has one end connected to ground at 130 and its other end to an output port 131. The other conductor 114 similarly is connected to ground at 138 and an output port at 142. A capacitor C2 connects the lines 112 and 114 at their mid-portions.

The Examiner suggests that line 116 runs between lines 112 and 114. As these latter two are at right angles, this may be debatable. However, claim 6 has been amended by replacing “running between” by “interposed between”. This clearly distinguishes over Mourant as it then requires that the second and third lines sandwich the first line between them, which is not the case in Mourant.

However, in addition, the ends 126 and 138 of lines 112 and 114 are connected to ground and not capacitatively coupled as stated by the Examiner. The capacitor C2 is shown as being at the mid-points of conductors 112 and 114 and not at their ends.

Turning to Vaisanen, Fig. 3 shows a balun in which the balanced gates (SYM) at ends 14 and 44, are also capacitatively coupled by capacitor 60. The other ends of conductors 10 and 40 are connected directly together, and not via capacitative coupling. Thus, the present invention is distinguished from this reference also, as claim 6 requires that the capacitative coupling is at the ends of the conductors (claim 6, lines 2-3) remote from the gates.

Given the above, the rejection of claim 9 as being unpatentable over Vaisanen in view of Westberg is also overcome.

Allowance of claims 6-10 is respectfully requested.

Petition is hereby made for a three-month extension of the period to respond to the outstanding Official Action to June 3, 2004. A check in the amount of \$950.00, as the Petition fee, is enclosed herewith. If there are any additional charges, or any overpayment, in connection with the filing of the amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such deficiency, or credit any such overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-1145.

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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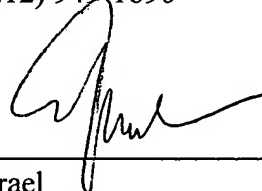
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